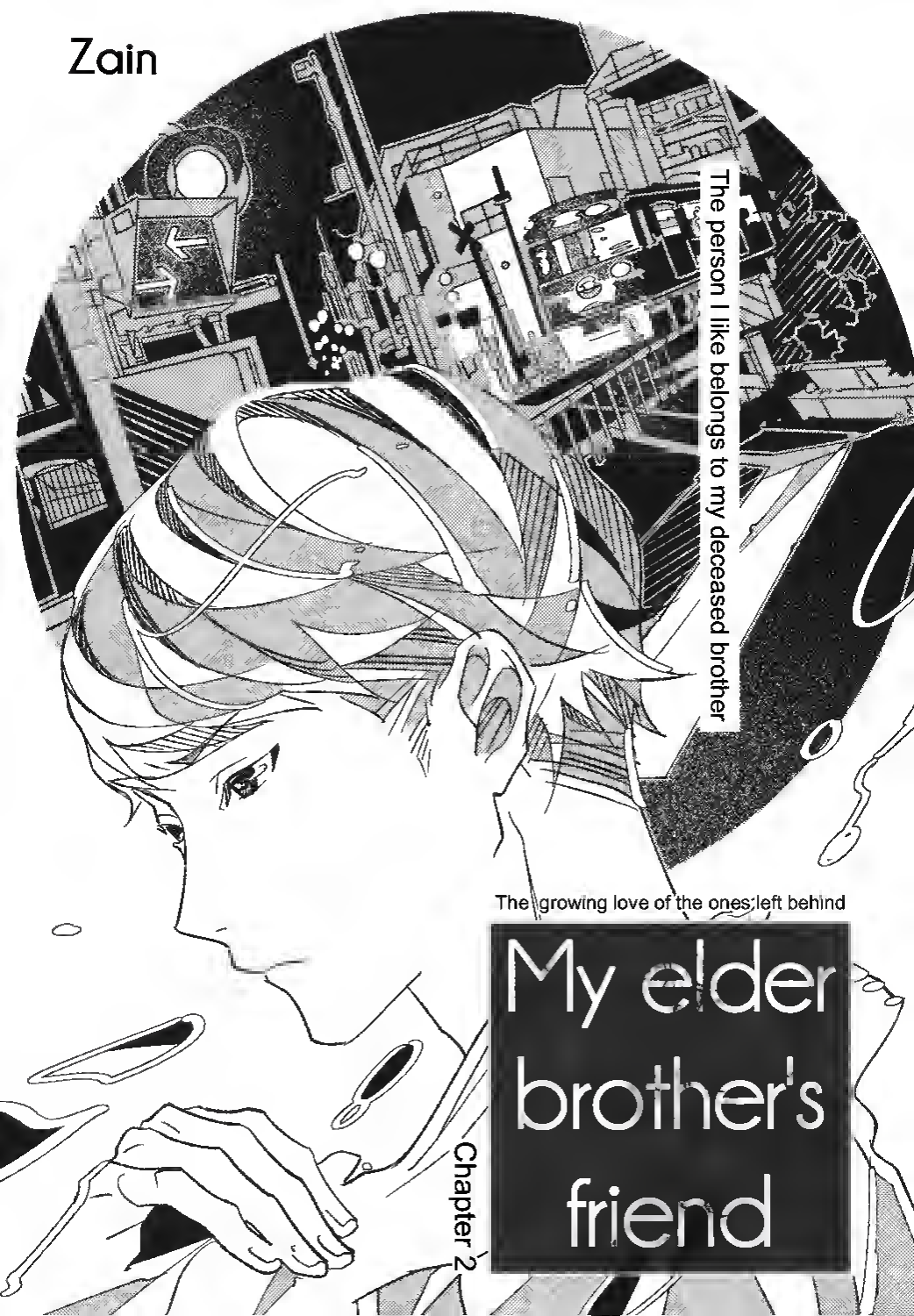
Zain



The person I like belongs to my deceased brother

The growing love of the ones left behind

My elder brother's friend

Chapter 2

EVEN THOUGH I DON'T THINK I DID ANTHING WRONG?
I'm sorry about the other day!
I've been thinking and hesitating abaut this far a week now

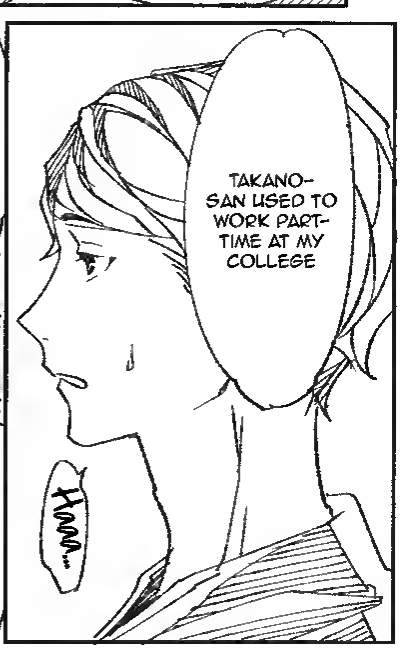
ANY IDEA WHERE PROFESSOR TAKANO IS?
It seems I'm stuck in an impasse
DIDN'T HE RETURN TO HIS OFFICE?

ABOUT THE LAST REPORT, I-
Occupied
Knock
EXCUSE ME
OOH
EH!?

WHAT, ARE YOU TWO FRIENDS?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, WHAT?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE!?

THIS GUY IS A WEIRDO, RIGHT? HE'S GOT SO MANY STRANGE BOOKS
Grin
Don't call me a weirdo

AND I'VE BEEN HELPING HIM OUT WITH A FEW THINGS EVER SINCE...
HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TREATED YOU TO FOOD?

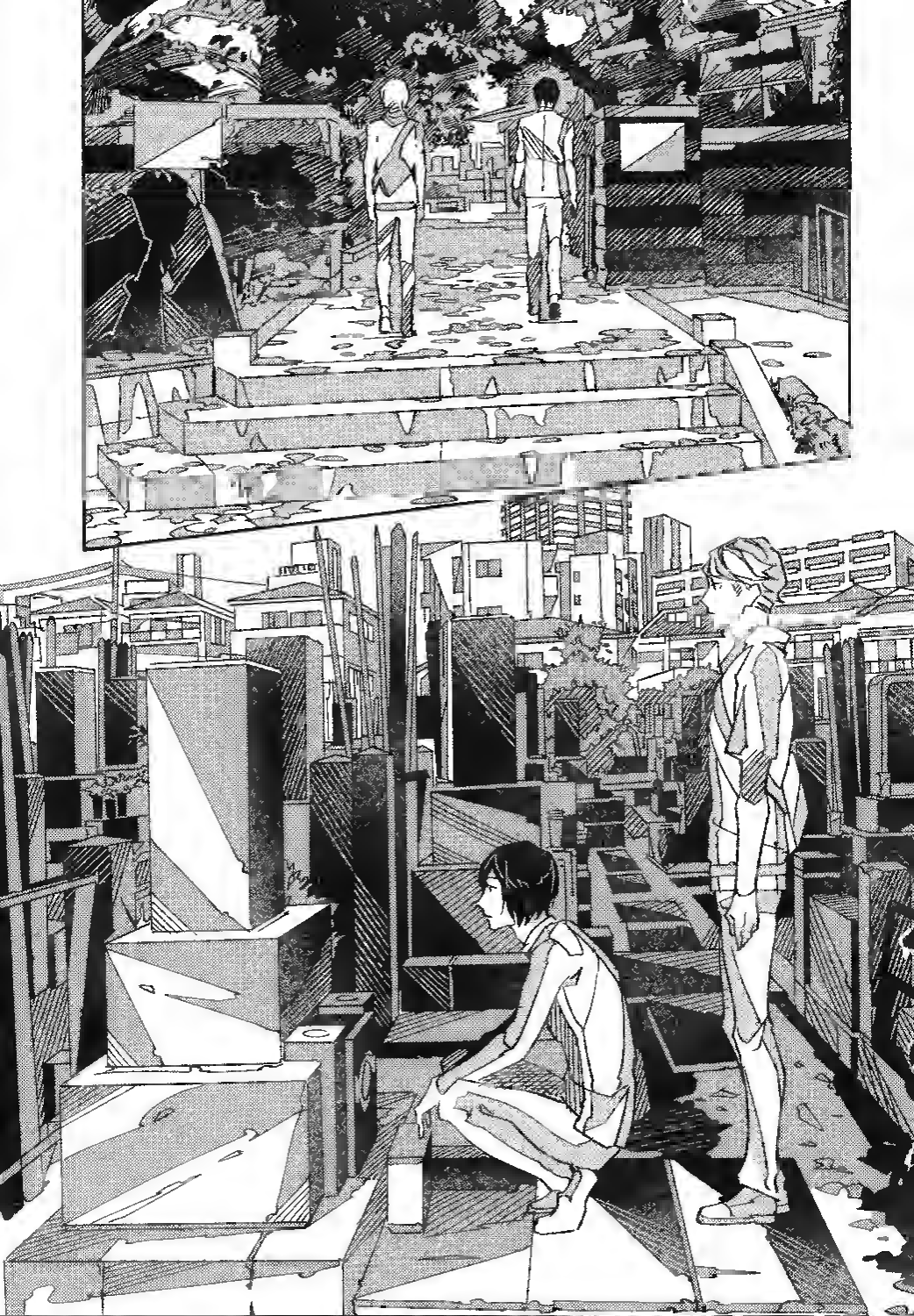

TAKANO-SAN USED TO WORK PART-TIME AT MY COLLEGE
Hmm...

I'LL BE OFF NOW
KEI, DID YOU DO SOMETHING AGAIN?
I DION'T DO ANY-THING
I CAME TO RESUBMIT MY REPORT
OOOH, GOOD LUCK~

AKINARI-SAN
HM?
DO YOU HAVE PLANS AFTER THIS?
I'VE SUBMITTED THE REPORT, SO...
H-MMM.
THEN SHALL WE HEAD HOME TOGETHER?
BUT I HAVE TO MAKE A STOP SOMEWHERE. SO I WILL BE TAKING THE LONG WAY AROUND

IT'S FINE..
I'M FREE, ANYWAY
IF WE WERE TO SPLIT HERE
I FEEL LIKE THINGS AREN'T GOING TO WORK OUT
..WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

THAT'S A SECRET
WELL, YOU MIGHT FIND IT BORING, THOUGH...
DON'T GET YOUR HOPES HIGH

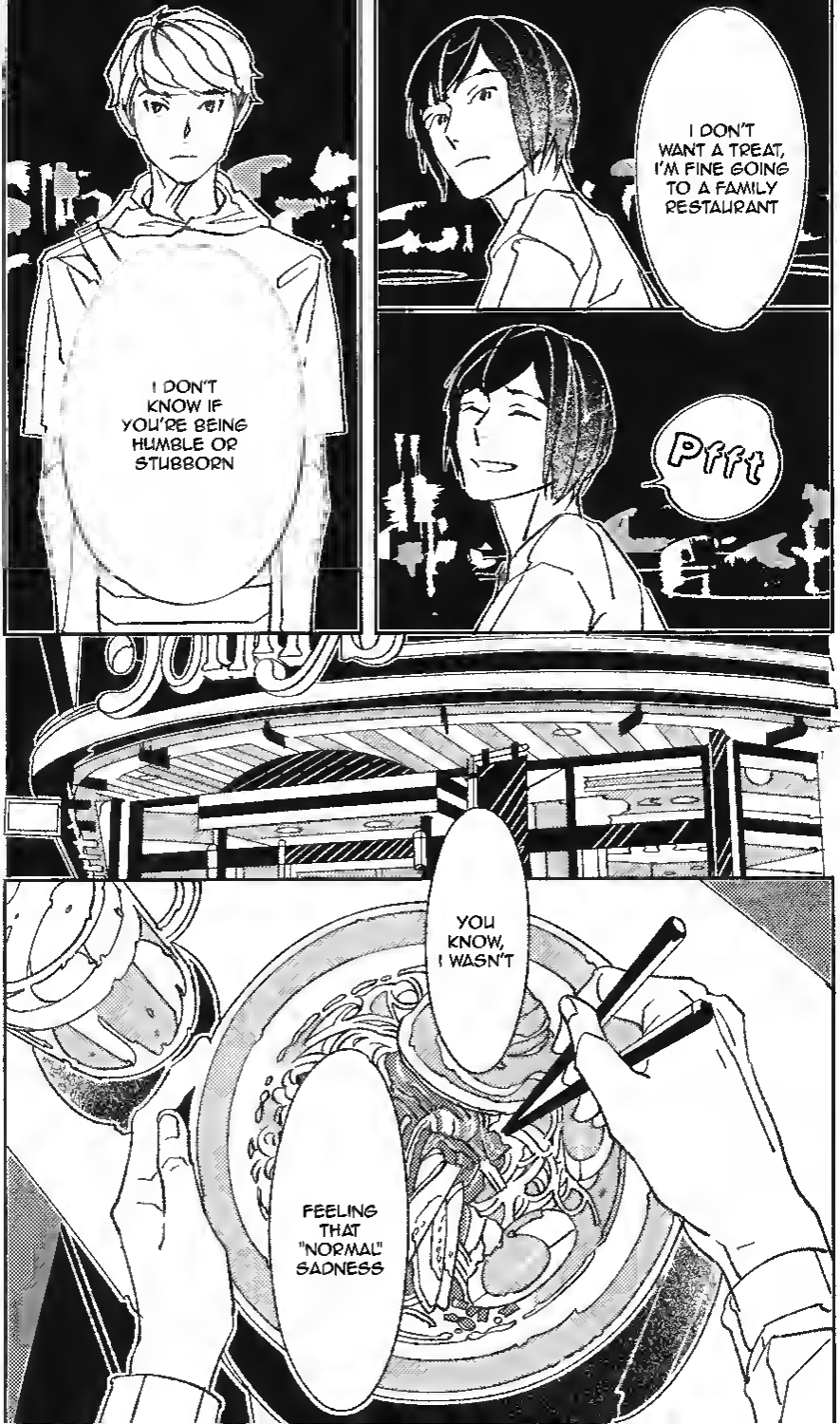


SHU
YOU KNOW, I
THIS IS QUITE A GRIM DATE, ISN'T IT?
SOME-THING LIKE A DATE...
FOR WHAT?
I HAD HIGH EXPEC-TATIONS
... YOU SHOULD HAVE TOLD ME BEFOREHAND
THAT'S WHY I WARNED YOU THAT YOU MIGHT FIND IT BORING

IT WAS DELIBERATE, I WANTED THE PERSON IN QUESTION TO HEAR THIS. SO, I KEPT SILENT AND BROUGHT YOU HERE
HOW ADULT-LIKE~

I'M DOING ALRIGHT AND I HAVE ALSO A LOT OF WORK TO DO, BUT
WELL, IT HAD BECOME LITTLE TROUBLESOME, THOUGH...
YOU'RE GOING TO TELL HIM THIS WHILE I'M HERE?

WOULD IT HAVE BEEN BETTER IF I TOLD HIM FACE TO FACE?
BESIDES
...
NO...
IT IS A BIT EARLY, BUT SHALL WE GO GRAB A BIT TO EAT?
6:15
BUT I DON'T HAVE MUCH MONEY ON ME
I'VE GOT MONEY, I'LL TREAT YOU


I DON'T KNOW IF YOU'RE BEING HUMBLE OR STUBBORN
I DON'T WANT A TREAT, I'M FINE GOING TO A FAMILY RESTAURANT
Pfft
YOU KNOW, I WASN'T
FEELING THAT "NORMAL" SADNESS

ALTHOUGH CALLING IT "NORMAL" IS STRANGE, BUT..
TOWARDS THE END, SHU GREW SILENT AND OUR CONVERSATION BECAME DULL
HM
When I showed him his favourite books or CD's
Even when he became withdrawn

AND DESPITE BEING HIS LOVER
I COULDN'T SAY DON'T GIVE UP
SO, IN A SENSE, HE GAVE UP EARLY
to be honest, I felt more disappointed than sad
To the point where we weren't able to talk about music or books
I WASN'T SURE IF

WE WERE SPEAKING TO EACH OTHER
LIKE AN OLD COUPLE, COMMUNICATING WITH ONLY A FEW WORDS
IT WAS BETTER THAT
OR, WISHING THAT I WERE YOUNGER
TO THINK THAT BEING DISAPPOINTED ENOUGH TO GIVE UP, WAS SAD...
OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT...

YOU PROBABLY STILL HAVE TO
OR FAMILY
WELL
WHETHER YOU'RE LOVERS OR FRIENDS
YOU HAVE TO DEAL WITH
THINGS LIKE THIS EVEN WHEN YOU'RE LOVERS
I SUPPOSE I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT "NORMAL" MEANS
EVEN THOUGH I WAS HIS BROTHER, NORMALLY I WOULD BE SAD...
HM...
PRO-BABLY
I am not normal either? I could not bring myself to ask me that
The "it had become a little troublesome" just now, does he think
I GUESS SO~
Ha ha

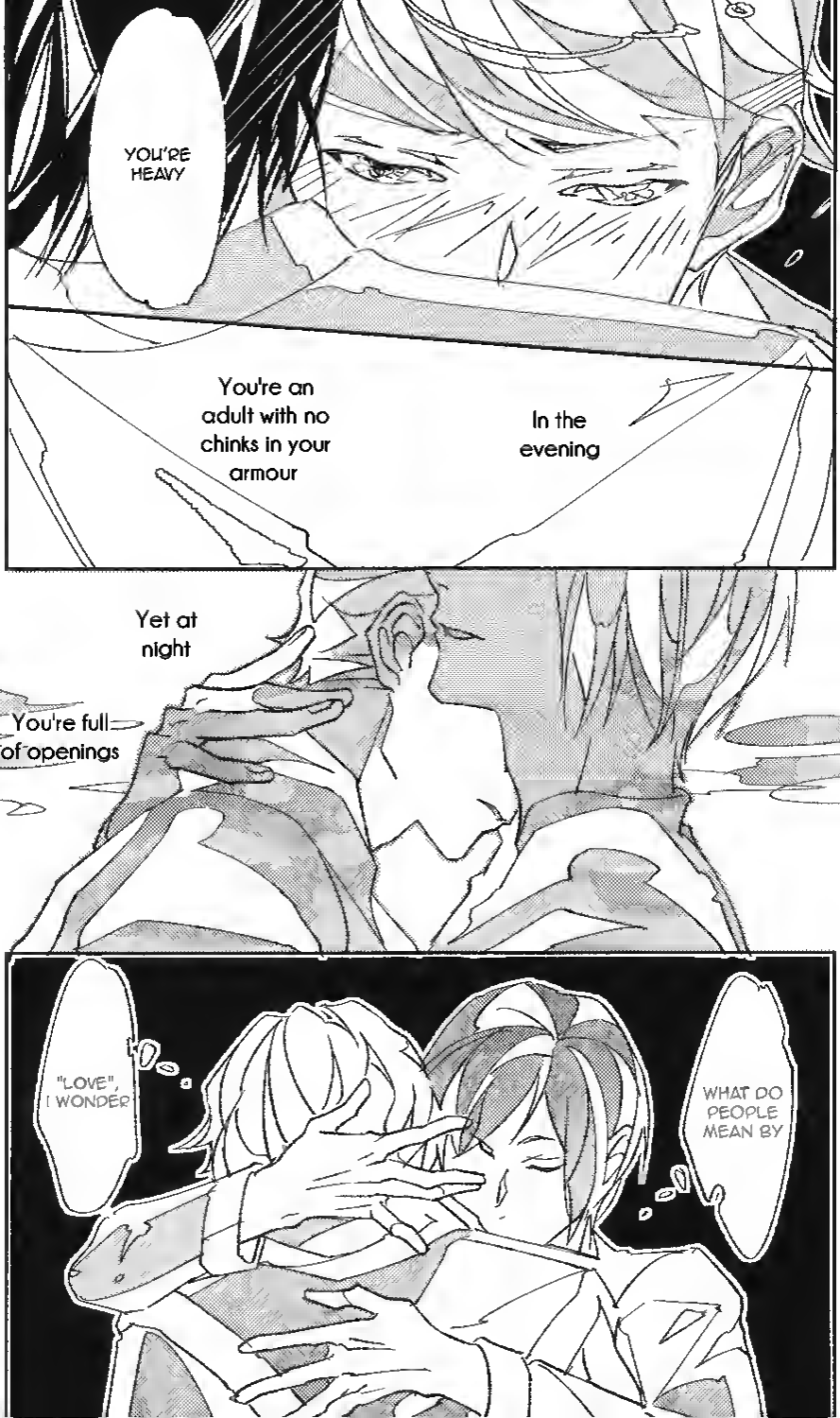
HA~ I DRANK A LOT
I'M SORRY ABOUT DRAGGING YOU ALONG TODAY
MAKING A MINOR LISTEN TO MY BABBLING WHILE I GOT DRUNK
NO
I GOT TO SPEAK YOU, SO I'M GLA~
OH
THA~T'S RIGHT, I ALMOST FORGOT
SHU'S TABLET, Y'KNOW
EH?

ALL OF THEM
No way
I WAS THE ONE WHO ASKED HIM TO TAKE THEM
THOSE PICTURES
YOU SAW THEM?
Don't imagine
I WAS THE ONE
Don't listen

SHU
TAKE IT
SEE~
IF I DON'T
CLEAR YOUR
BROTHER'S
NAME
HE WILL
CURSE HIM
FROM THE
AFTERLIFE

HAHAHA
I'M VERY STUPID AND I'M LEWD
YOU KNOW~
SAYING THAT ON PURPOSE TOO?
ARE YOU...

I CAN'T-
EH~ WHA~?
HAHAHA
DID YOU REVERT BACK TO BEING A CHILD?
HEAR-

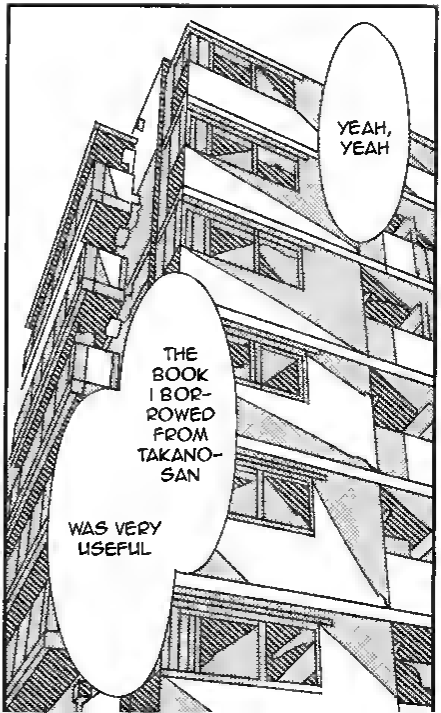

YOU'RE HEAVY
You're an adult with no chinks in your armour
In the evening
Yet at night
You're full of openings
"LOVE", I WONDER
WHAT DO PEOPLE MEAN BY

Kiss

Sho re
WHAT'S WRONG?
MM~
AH!
THE BEAUTIFUL VIEW
ABOVE, LOOK UP

THE MOON TODAY IS SU-PER ROUND, ISN'T IT?
LIKE AS IF I KNOW.

RIGHT
IN THE NOVEL, THEY USED A DEPICTION OF 2-LINE DEGREE


YEAH, YEAH
THE BOOK I BOR-ROWED FROM TAKANO-SAN
WAS VERY USEFUL

HM
ALRIGHT THEN, I'LL SEE YOU SOON
AH
SPEAKING OF...
HE IS COMING OVER TODAY
I'll come over tomorrow
Why all of a sudden
Oh~kay
HE WROTE LESS THAN USUAL...
NO, THIS IS
IT IS SUBTLE, BUT I THINK HE IS ANGRY
DID I DO SOMETHING?
IT WAS A BIT LOOSE LIPPED THE OTHER DAY

Ding dong
OH
SPEAK OF THE DEVIL
Clack
To be continued

Label /A/

Translation @Shinymixedbag
Proofreading @Azurebluephoenix
Cleaning @Shimizu